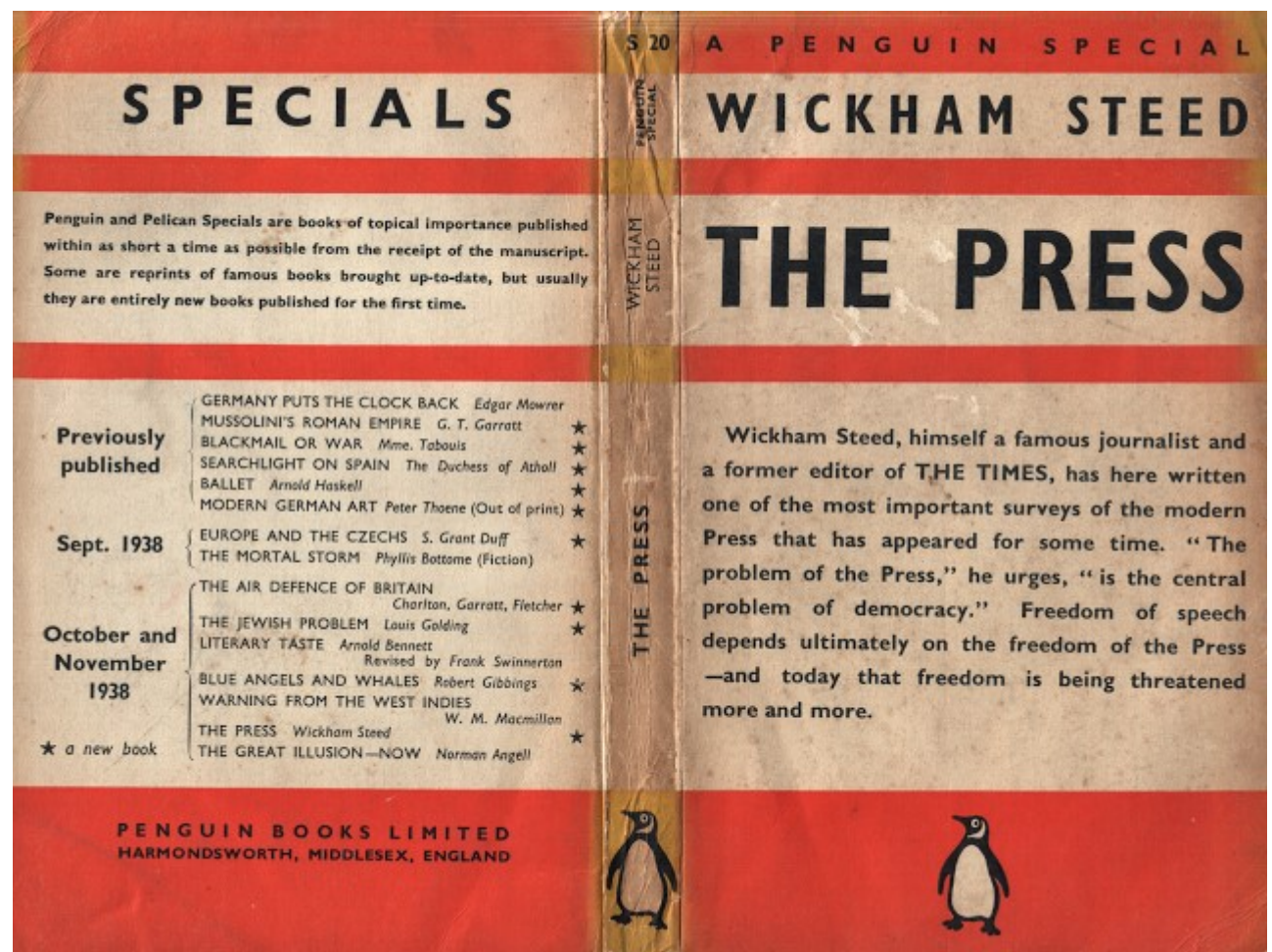


Review of Henry Wickham Steed (former Times newspaper editor), *The Press*, Penguin books, 14 October 1938

*The Pope may launch his Interdict,
The Union its decree,
But the bubble is blown and the bubble is pricked
By us and such as we.
Remember the battle and stand aside,
While thrones and powers confess
That King over all the children of pride
Is the press, the press, the press.*

- Kipling, *The Press*



Above: first edition of *The Press* by Henry Wickham Steed, Penguin Special S20, 250 pages (update on pages 249-250 is dated 14 October 1938)

Steed's *The Press* is vitally important for understanding the current taboo on the publication and broadcast of the nuclear weapons capabilities facts by the mainstream media, because there was a similar taboo on a similar subject (arms and deterrence) for a similar reason ("political correctness") when he wrote it, in 1938, during the disarmament of the west relative to the fascist Nazi regime. (Both were then arming, but the Nazis were doing it much faster than Britain, so the arms gap was widening and the prospects for winning a war were diminishing every day.)

The basic cause of the lack of free speech and publication then was exactly the same as it is today: foreign fascists, and other dictatorial regimes who hate free liberty, cloaked themselves in false liberal colours and claimed to be "offended" by free speech which denounced their aggressive threats.

As we previously pointed out in detail, contrary to popular historical drivel, the fact is that Winston Churchill was busy writing his histories of the Duke of Marlborough during the period, and his only contributions made the problems worse. As appeaser Professor Cyril Joad pointed out in his *Why War?*, Churchill had *prior to the first world war* debated pacifist drivel monger and liar Sir Norman Angell on the arms race, losing the argument. Angell simply sneered that if both sides try to deter the other, they will cause fail. He didn't explain how. The audience were taken by Angell's lies, not Churchill's blathering. It's the old Machiavellian story of factual evidence losing the battle in the media because its proponents are pompous fools and can't make the evidence convincing:

"But to come to those who, by their own ability and not through fortune, have risen to be princes, I say that Moses, Cyrus, Romulus, Theseus, and such like are the most excellent examples. ... It was necessary, therefore, to Moses that he should find the people of Israel in Egypt enslaved and oppressed by the Egyptians, in order that they should be disposed to follow him so as to be delivered out of bondage. It was necessary that Romulus should not remain in Alba, and that he should be abandoned at his birth, in order that he should become King of Rome and founder of the fatherland. It was necessary that Cyrus should find the Persians discontented with the government of the Medes, and the Medes soft and effeminate through their long peace. Theseus could not have shown his ability had he not found the Athenians dispersed. These opportunities, therefore, made those men fortunate, and their high ability enabled them to recognize the opportunity whereby their country was ennobled and made famous.

"Those who by valorous ways become princes, like these men, acquire a principality with difficulty, but they keep it with ease. The difficulties they have in acquiring it arise in part from the new rules and methods which they are forced to introduce to establish their government and its security. And it ought to be remembered that there is nothing more difficult to take in hand, more perilous to conduct, or more uncertain in its success, than to take the lead in the introduction of a new order of things. Because the innovator has for enemies all those who have done well under the old conditions, and lukewarm defenders in those who may do well under the new. This coolness arises partly from fear of the opponents, who have the laws on their side, and partly from the incredulity of men, who do not readily believe in new things until they have had a long experience of them. Thus it happens that whenever those who are hostile have the opportunity to attack they do it like partisans, whilst the others defend lukewarmly, in such wise that the prince is endangered along with them.

"It is necessary, therefore, if we desire to discuss this matter thoroughly, to inquire whether these innovators can rely on themselves or have to depend on others: that is to say, whether, to consummate their enterprise, have they to use prayers or can they use force? In the first instance they always succeed badly, and never compass anything; but when they can rely on themselves and use force, then they are rarely endangered. Hence it is that all armed prophets have conquered, and the unarmed ones have been destroyed. Besides the reasons mentioned, the nature of the people is variable, and whilst it is easy to persuade them, it is difficult to fix them in that persuasion. And thus it is necessary to take such measures that, when they believe no longer, it may be possible to make them believe by force.

"If Moses, Cyrus, Theseus, and Romulus had been unarmed they could not have enforced their constitutions for long - as happened in our time to Fra Girolamo Savonarola, who was ruined with his new order of things immediately the multitude believed in him no longer, and he had no means of keeping steadfast those who

believed or of making the unbelievers to believe. Therefore such as these have great difficulties in consummating their enterprise, for all their dangers are in the ascent, yet with ability they will overcome them; but when these are overcome, and those who envied them their success are exterminated, they will begin to be respected, and they will continue afterwards powerful, secure, honoured, and happy.

"To these great examples I wish to add a lesser one; still it bears some resemblance to them, and I wish it to suffice me for all of a like kind: it is Hiero the Syracusan. This man rose from a private station to be Prince of Syracuse, nor did he, either, owe anything to fortune but opportunity; for the Syracusans, being oppressed, chose him for their captain, afterwards he was rewarded by being made their prince. He was of so great ability, even as a private citizen, that one who writes of him says he wanted nothing but a kingdom to be a king. This man abolished the old soldiery, organized the new, gave up old alliances, made new ones; and as he had his own soldiers and allies, on such foundations he was able to build any edifice: thus, whilst he had endured much trouble in acquiring, he had but little in keeping."

- Nicolo Machiavelli, *The Prince*, Chapter VI, "Concerning New Principalities which are acquired by one's own arms and ability".

Steed in *The Press* puts himself in the position of Machiavelli by telling the reader truths they don't want to hear about the "news". On page 248 Steed writes:

"My paper would be national, not nationalist. It would be liberal, not Liberal. It would strive for Peace, without pacifism. ... Never would it fall into the grievous error of thinking the avoidance of conflict the same thing as peace. ... men will never be weaned from war, with its spirit of life-risking adventure, unless peace enlist the spirit of self-devotion and self-sacrifice in ways worthier than those of war. My newspaper would seek to link the nations not only against war but in defence of individual freedom and of human right ... it would work to harness all classes of citizens to the task of constructive improvement in the edifice of society."

On pages 249-250, Steed's 14 October 1938 update to the book damns the British media's appeasing cover-up of Nazi genocide in the Munich Agreement signed by Chamberlain days earlier, allowing the invasion of the Sudetenland without a bullet being fired, in the name of "peace", while Hitler monitored the British press and coerced Neville Henderson and Chamberlain into putting "old boy" pressure the publishers to fire appeasement critics like Captain W. E. Johns, editor of both *Flying* and *Popular Flying*, and to get Hitler critic cartoonist David Low to tone down his attacks (such critics were attacked falsely as racists who irrationally hate war mongering Aryans, etc):

"Since these lines were written in mid-September the British press has - with one or two notable exceptions - made further progress on the road that leads to totalitarian servitude. Though we are not yet in a state of war ... the great majority of our newspapers toned down the news and withheld frank comment upon it.

"This they did partly in response to suggestions of "confidentially" made by some clandestine organisation that represents, or pretends to represent, the [anti-Jew, pro-fascist] views of official quarters. No newspaper, as far as I am aware, has denounced in public this impertinent meddling with the freedom of responsible journalism.

"On the early afternoon of Sunday, October 9, the German Dictator, Herr Hitler, fortified by the Munich Agreement and by a scrap of paper which he and the British

Prime Minister had signed - publicly told Great Britain to mind her own business and not to meddle with Germany's business; and, on pain of German displeasure, he placed his veto upon the return to office of three prominent British public men.

"When this news was broadcast on the evening of Sunday, October 9, the whole nation was moved to wrath. Of the depth of its wrath hardly a hint was given next morning in the leading British newspapers ... large advertising agents had warned journals for which they provide much revenue that **advertisements would be withheld from them should they 'play up' the international crisis and cause an alarm which was 'bad for trade'**. [Emphasis added.]

"None of the newspapers thus warned dared to publish the names of these advertisement agents or to hold them up to public contempt [it's unlikely that this would have worked if they had the mindset of former Labour Party fascist Sir Oswald Moseley, who openly wanted fascism in Britain, ran a "Blackshirt" newspaper in Britain, and had some powerful supporters camouflaged as "anti-war" pacifists on his side]. And this at a moment when it is of the utmost national importance to unite the country in defence of its freedom and, maybe, of its independent existence!

"Never since the distant days of Ethelred the Unready [a Chamberlain-like weak King who was never ready for the invading Danes and tried to buy them off, which just encouraged more and more blackmail] and the later days of Charles II, have more humiliating pages of British history been written than those which bear the record of the past few weeks.

"Of Ethelred the Unready and the period of Danegeld the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* said: 'All these calamities fell upon us because of evil counsel, because tribute was not offered to them [the Danes] at the right time nor yet were they resisted; but when they had done the most evil, then was peace made with them'."

"Of evil counsel there has been no lack during recent years. 'Leading' organs of the British Press have offered it in plenty [**in 1935 Labour Party leader pacifist George Lansbury resigned at the thought of having to deter Nazi fascists from over-running the planet, and replaced by the disarmament Clement Attlee who we have quoted at length in previous posts, dismissing deterrence; thus Chamberlain had no real opponents and could rearm Britain slower than Hitler to avoid credibly deterring him**]. 'Leading' organs of the British Press have offered it in plenty.

"It would remain only for them to accept with dutiful submissiveness the claim which Herr Hitler has already put forward, and may soon renew, that unless the British Government wishes to incur German hostility it must so control British newspapers as to prevent them from taking exception to anything Herr Hitler may say or do.

"Fortunately, there are signs [too late to deter Hitler] that a spirit of revolt against this foreign dictation is stirring ... May this spirit spread ... until it finds courage to serve neither the timidity nor the dictatorial itch of Governments but the public to whom alone it owes allegiance."

This is a pretty damning critique of the British Press in 1938 by a former Times newspaper editor. He was damned as a racist by the Nazis for writing that book, and Chamberlain's fascist mindset continued, getting Captain W. E. Johns fired for his Flying and Popular Flying magazine criticisms early in 1939. It was only after the civil defence was really going, with Anderson shelter development in February 1939, that the mood changed and the press realised that its appeasement of Hitler's peace propaganda lies was wallpapering over the news of a real threat that needed to be stopped, and that war would not annihilate everyone in a few seconds if there was evacuation and shelter in place to reduce the dangers. Conclusion: the "free" press is a laggard and historically stopped dissemination of facts in an unequivocal manner, until too late to credibly deter aggression.

Why the freedom of the press means freedom for dictatorial liars and thugs

It is fashionable for self-proclaimed "liberals" who hate freedom to prattle on about the existence of "freedom of the press", as if that freedom to elitist, rich thugs is any better than, say "freedom of dictators", "freedom of elitists", "freedom of bigots", or indeed "freedom of liars". Steed quotes Socrates:

"The sun might as easily be spared from the universe as free speech from the liberal institutions of society."

But Steed recognised that bigoted dictators like Hitler are easily "offended" by the "rudeness" of any critics (if the critic is so polite that the criticism is impotent, it's not a severe criticism, is it?) and states the key question on page 7 of *The Press*:

"Dictatorial systems which muzzle or control the Press and do away with freedom of speech and of public and private criticism, are claiming for themselves a degree of political and social efficiency superior to that of democracies. How far is this claim warranted? ... One thing they cannot tolerate is the freedom of public knowledge that goes to the forming of sound judgement."

On page 8, Steed argues that the Aryan Nazi fascist racism is as bad as his own families Jewish-Marxist hate of liberty, in suppressing objective, rational criticisms and smearing critics with abuse:

"Unless there is freedom to know, to agree or to disagree, there cannot be enlightened support of the men charged with the conduct of public affairs. In other words, there cannot exist the instructed public opinion which is the mainstay of democratic governments."

For that defence of freedom of speech and critical debate, despite having a Jewish family, Steed was called a racist by the Jewish Marxists who prefer a Nazi-type Stalinist dictatorship to honest debate, because of their fanatical, paranoid hatred of "capitalism". Steed explains on pages 8-9 the problem:

"... absence of informed criticism or agreement, and the restriction of public knowledge, tend to breed the corruption and other forms of inefficiency to which dictatorial systems are particularly liable. The same lack of public control allows

abuses to grow until they reach a point at which a community is compelled to conspire or to rebel against its rulers, seeing that no other means of redress can be found. Thus, the end of dictatorship may be chaos and social disorder."

Another prescient remark is made by Steed on page 28 of *The Press*, on the subject of the future of television (which was still in its infancy in 1938):

"... television should enable people to see what is actually taking place and to be spectators of real events. Thus, it may exercise their powers of direct observation and strengthen, rather than weaken, their perceptive and reasoning faculties. If so, it will be a gain, both to the public and to the press."

Steed on page 41 of *The Press* also offers sage editorial advice to journalists and authors on the eternal problem of being fashionable enough to be of interest to potential readers:

"If the Press would lead, it must first follow. In any case, it must march so nearly abreast of its readers as to seem to be keeping pace with them. To run too far ahead is to lose touch. ... The crowd likes to feel that those whom it follows know where to go, and how to get there. Above all, the crowd likes its leaders to be proved right by events. It does not easily forgive those who mislead or who fail to guide it at difficult turnings."

Steed adds on page 42:

"Mr Bernard Shaw has written some shrewd truths upon journalism. 'What people cannot endure,' he declares, 'is the pompous oracle with nothing to say ... They prefer snippets because the snippets are usually much better. But let anyone come along who can supply the real thing, and the public cannot have enough of it. ... offices are prisons in which the cleverest editor will soon lose touch with the world, being cut off as he is from political meetings, scientific lectures, concerts and even dinners by the hours during which he has to work'."

He adds on page 57 a summary of the bugbears for different regimes that use "fashion" censorship:

"Communist Russia cannot tolerate free discussion upon matters like the ownership of property. Nazi Germany cannot allow the dogmas of blood and race to be called in question. Fascist Italy cannot brook free enquiry into the nature or functions of the state, or into the position of individuals in regard to the state."

On the next page, Steed quotes John Stuart Mill's *On Liberty*: "A person may cause evil to others not only by his actions, but by his inaction, and in either case he is justly accountable to them for the injury."

The point here is that censorship prevents the correction of error, as Steed explains on page 58:

"This sound doctrine applies with especial force to the freedom of the press. In free countries, the press fails in its proper task if it glosses over or shirks from exposing abuses or practices harmful to the general welfare."

On pages 63-64, Steed explains that Hitler's error was in assuming that the diversity of thought between Aryan and Jewish cultures in Germany in WWI led to defeat, whereas supposed unity or herd like co-operation in Britain led to its victory in that war:

"Human progress, as I understand it, has not been bought about by 'mass thought' or 'likemindedness' [*Although this was important in American and British factories for the efficient manufacture of munitions in WWI, and is also used in large lecture theatres for mass-education and for scientific journals to indoctrinate people in fashionable dogmas regardless of the benefits of less fashionable alternatives which, with funding, are eventually shown to model the data more consistently. Since 1972 this has been named "groupthink" by Dr Irving Janis.*] ... The worth of freedom is that it gives a chance to individual minds to wrestle with error and ignorance, so seek what is true and to proclaim it, and, no matter at what risk, to bear witness to the truth they have found. It is an opportunity for personal enterprise and endeavour; and, politically and socially, an opening for public service. It is the antithesis of dictatorial constraint."

Steed explains on page 68 of *The Press* that in Nazi Germany, Herr Wilhelm Waldkirch's book, *Die Zeitungspolitische Aufgabe*, or *The Political Task of the Press*, instructs newspapers to communicate Hitler's messages to the people, and as Hitler himself said (a quote the communists believe, too):

"A newspaper is the means of popular self-education [if it is censored by bigoted dogmatists]."

Now contrast this crap of Adolf Hitler to the London 7 February 1852 *The Times* newspaper editorial:

"The duty of the journalist is the same as that of the historian - to seek out the truth, above all things, and to present it to his readers, not such things as statecraft would wish them to know, but the truth as near as he can attain it."

Steed argues that wars and revolutions are the lifeblood of the news on page 110 of *The Press*:

"... in August 1642, three months after Charles I had raised his standard against Parliament at Nottingham, the first true newspaper came into being. Regular English journalism began with the Civil War and the political strife that led up to it. From the outset it was vivacious and, on the whole, truthful."

He explains on page 112:

"It was not by accident that the first English newspapers took shape between 1640 and 1688, that is to say, during the troubled period covered by the reign of Charles I,

the Commonwealth, and the reigns of Charles II and James II, for at no time in English history had so many conflicting political ideas and passions filled the public mind, or had the essentials of political freedom been so fiercely debated. With the Revolution of 1688, the expulsion of James II and the accession of William and Mary, English political ideas began profoundly to influence the Continent of Europe. The movement of thought represented by Locke's essays on *Toleration* and *Concerning the Human Understanding* led, directly and indirectly, to the "Encyclopaedism" [the political satires of Voltaire, et al.] which was to culminate in the French Revolution of 1789, after having been responsible, in part, for the terms of the American Declaration of Independence, on July 4, 1776."

Steed argues on page 113:

"This movement of thought might not have spread and flourished without the constant discussion of fundamental principles in English newspapers ..."

He explains that King Charles II had tried to prevent this freedom of the press by his 1680 proclamation *For Restraining the Printing of News, Books and Pamphlets of News without Leave*. In other words, Charles II was well aware that the free press was being used to incite and spread dissent and revolutionary conspiracies that (in the words of Charles II's Chief Justice Scroggs in 1680) "showed a manifest intent to breach the peace", and tried to stamp it out by using censorship (like the Vatican's Index of heretical books). But in 1695, Parliament liberated the press from the shackles of Charles II's law. During the period 1680-1695, England had to rely on personal letters and word of mouth for uncensored news, as in Nazi Germany and the USSR.

Steed writes on page 114 of *The Press* that the liberation of the press from censorship in 1695 led to an explosion in popular publications:

"Within a few weeks of the freeing of the Press from censorship, a number of newspapers of a fresher type came into existence ... On May 17, 1695, appeared the *Flying Post*, published thrice weekly. It was followed quickly by *The English Courant*, the *Post Boy* and the *Weekly Messenger*, all of which were morning papers. ... On Wednesday March 11, 1702, however, the *Daily Courant* was published. It was the first English daily paper."

What is most interesting on pages 166-167 of Steed's *The Press* is his discussion of how Hitler controlled the censorship of criticism of Nazi propaganda in Britain's "free press" in Britain:

"Totalitarian Governments often profess to desire peace and friendship ... So foreign criticism and the publication [in free countries] of unpleasant facts are deplored as tending to 'impede friendship and to endanger peace'. Moreover, when independent and well-informed writers in free countries comment truthfully upon the doings of totalitarian Governments, the ambassadors or other emissaries of those Governments [whose job it is explain foreign newspaper headlines and leading articles with the dictator] lose no time in suggesting to newspaper proprietors or editors [or in the case of David Low's cartoons or the *Flying* and *Popular Flying*

magazines editor Captain WE Johns, cabinet ministers, who can coerce and pull strings with otherwise independent-minded publishers] that the publication of contributions from such writers 'irritate' the dictators and are therefore dangerous. ... to restrain foreign criticism without causing public resentment.

"Herr Hitler has, it is true, publicly demanded that British newspapers be brought under Government control, at least to the extent of suppressing criticism of himself or of Nazi Germany. And he threatened Great Britain with a 'National Socialist answer' if this were not done. ... They forgot that in dealing with bullies, meekness is a vice."

Hitler's answer to charges that he was bully was simply to assert that his critics were bullies. The word doesn't convey any meaning without the context being taken into account: who is telling the lies, and who is exposing the relevant facts against the censorship of liars? That tells you who the bully is. While you might claim that everybody has the right to censoring others, the problem is that this gives a free hand to lying fairy-tale "story tellers" who publish partial facts and refuse to engage in debate with real opponents, publishing only praising comments, which make them appear right. That was the subtle tactic used by Hitler: there was *no censorship* of people writing to *praise him!*

President Ronald Reagan put this beautifully as a joke, along the following lines:

American says to a Russian comrade: "I'm liberal, as I'm free to criticise the American government."

Russian replies: "I'm *also* liberal, as I'm *also free* to criticise the American government!"

(The point being made is that, even in the worst dictatorships, there is plenty of so-called "freedom" if you just love dictatorships and praise the dictator, or you criticise or attack the dictator's enemies!)

The attempts of Hitler to use influence over the *Daily Mail* and other British newspapers for fascist revolution in London were in 1936 analysed in detail by Nazi researcher Dr Max Gruenbeck in his two-volume treatise on the British press for fascists, *Die Presse Grossbritanniens*, a work approved officially by Hitler's expert on foreign media, Dr Ernst Hanfstaengel (Chief of the Nazi Party Foreign Press Department), and that book is quoted by Steed on pages 174-175 of *The Press*, as follows:

"Especially in recent years, British newspaper men and politicians insist that Great Britain and the United States of America are countries where the Press is absolutely free. ... When Lord Rothermere's papers [e.g. London *Daily Mail*] gave vigorous support for a time to the Fascist movement [of former Labour Party MP, Sir Oswald Mosley] in England their initiative was throttled in a few weeks by their advertisement department ... The State has various possibilities of influencing newspapers; and, particularly at critical moments, old and half-forgotten laws like the Official Secrets Act can be brought forward to throw serious shadows upon the halo of British newspaper freedom."

Ummm. Nazis appealing to the British Official Secrets Act to defend fascism? That was of course exactly what happened in 1935 when British government fascist-supporting appeasers used the trick of keeping secret estimates on the size of the illegal German Air Force, while making public statements denying any air threat, but then suddenly reversed direction when Hitler announced an air force and announced that the German Air Force was not only real but *too big to fight*, so that *due to the Official Secrets Act*, at no time was there an admitted "emerging threat" which could be stopped!

Steed explains on page 194 how secrecy laws in France were abused by a spy who had infiltrated the French military, Colonel Henry, who gave French military secrets to Germany and covered up the disclosures by fabricating a trumped up charge against an innocent scapegoat, Captain Dreyfus, who was wrongly convicted of treason on the basis of faked evidence by the spy, and was sentenced to penal servitude on the worst French prison, in Devil's Isle. This led to Emile Zola's article *J'accuse*, and Colonel Henry's eventual

arrest and suicide in 1898. Steed had met Bernard Lazare, the French Jew who exposed the facts that led to Zola's article, while he was working on a history of liberal thought in Europe, in Paris University, as he explains on page 194 of *The press*:

"This 'Dreyfus Affair' contained in germ the anti-Jewish feeling that has since been exploited by Hitler in Germany. The French anti-Semites made capital out of it. They claimed that the honour of the French Army was offended by suggestions that a French court martial had condemned an innocent man ... So fierce did controversy become that the stability of the French Republic was believed to be threatened. ... And, since Germany and Italy were alleged to have benefited by Captain Dreyfus's 'treason', the crisis took on a dangerous international character."

THE CORRUPT PSEUDO-SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS

Science has always been corrupted by malicious "Nukemap" style exploitation for quackery, which is defined as a "professional" (money-making) activity, akin to peddling snakeoil for profit. Throughout the 20th century, nuclear weapons effects were abused by communist fronts like CND and Greenpeace, just as today they prevent any just, constructive, and evidence based criticisms of CO2 climate theory from being published, using paranoid and pseudo-scientific "elitist" dictatorship rather than reason.

To give some examples, in the 1930s the irrational hater of cheap Anderson type air raid shelters who delayed civil defence possibly for years (which were needed for credible deterrence of the Nazi bombing threat, the main obstacle in stopping genocide in Europe), the famous chemistry professor J. B. S. Haldane was able to put out a series of books linking science to his pet politics, Marxism. In 1938 he published *The Marxist Philosophy and the Sciences*, as well as *Heredity and Politics*, while fellow Marxist and best-selling popular mathematics author (who had the long-winded best sellers *Mathematics for the Million* and *Science for the Citizen*) Lancelot Hogben, edited the book *Political Arithmetic*. These were abuses of science for supporting dictatorship propaganda about "equality".

Anyone who argued was censored out, and these people were only willing to enter debates with biased empires who would silence just opponents to make it appear they were wrong, without being given any fair chance to oppose the liars. A major reason why so many East Enders bombed in the Blitz did not use their Anderson shelters in late 1941 was not the cold and damp (duck boards had been invented in WWI trenches to deal with the problems), but Haldane's continuing lying crusade to exaggerate high explosive effects and to call for deep shelters by claiming that simple earthy covered shelters gave no protection (totally untrue):

Anderson has rejected the Finsbury Plan for Bombproof Shelters.

PROFESSOR HALDANE, noted authority on Air Raid Precautions,

YOU HAVE RECEIVED YOUR DEATH SENTENCE

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* IF the Government thinks we shall only get two or three minutes warning then, of course, there will have to be more shelters, each holding fewer people. But if so we ought to be told that the official figures are wrong.

Thirdly, we are told that the number of people catered for could not get into the shelters in the time. Certainly the time calculated is less than that allowed by the L.C.C. for theatres. But the entrances to the shelters are roads sloping gently downwards, whereas theatres and cinemas have steps, which slow down the rate of motion very greatly.

Finally three venerable Consulting Engineers (one of whom has just died at the age

* NOW one or other of two things is true.

Either the Government has made experiments on the effect of heavy bombs or it has not. If it has, by keeping them secret, it makes proper shelter design impossible. If it has not it is criminally negligent. Modern war is scientific, and modern science is experimental. Sir John Anderson does not appear to realise these facts, and if we value our lives we shall turn him out in favour of someone who does.

Other criticisms are based on sheer ignorance. "We have never heard," say the experts, "of such a method as roughening the surface of one piece of concrete in order to transmit considerable stress from it to another one." And yet this principle is common in the design of

neighbourhood who are very keen to make the experiment.

* IS your municipality as progressive as that of Finsbury? Too often even a Council with a Labour majority takes the view that it can do nothing without Home Office support. Finsbury is making history. Other boroughs can do the same.

But don't think the Government is doing nothing about underground shelter during air raids. They are. Undertakers have been made a reserved occupation. I only differ from their policy on one minor point. I would sooner pay £11 to get underground before I am dead instead of afterwards.



Professor JBS Haldane exaggerated explosive bombing effects to attack effective cheap air raid shelters, ensuring that he died needlessly in the Blitz of 1940 by not being in their shelters during air raids! Exactly the same thing occurs in conventional war. The reason: egotistic, ignorant, narky professors who have never tested shelters make up ranting hate campaigns in the name of "peace" which applies to nuclear weapons civil defence.



IF WAR SHOULD COME!

Like the repeated lying articles on a "missile gap" which the lying Washington Post newspaper published by Democrat writer Walter Lippman and which Kennedy naively believed, the lying Daily Worker newspaper in Britain hated civil defence and ensured that as few people as possible used safe air raid shelters, using cartoon propaganda that effectively supported the Nazis, something that is understandable when you remember the Nazi-Soviet Pact made in August 1939 for Germany and Russia to jointly invade Poland in September 1939 (a pact that continued right through the Blitz of 1940 and only ended with Hitler's invasion of Russia in June 1941, to the complete surprise of Stalin, who had been shooting the messengers who truthfully told him what his beloved fellow dictator and comrade Hitler was planning). The communists wanted Britain to give a free hand to the Nazi-Soviet Pact, and civil defence shelters stood in the way of the Daily Worker's agenda.

- N. C. via <https://glasstone.blogspot.co.uk/2017/07/>